

## Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9006

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, ELAB, UY

SUBJECT: 1975 CENSUS RESULTS

1. PRELIMINARY RESULTS RELEASED MAY 30 OF THE NATIONAL CENSUS CONDUCTED MAY 21 SHOW A TOTAL URUGUAYAN POPULATION OF 2,764,000, A GROWTH OF 170,000 SINCE THE 1963 CENSUS. THIS IS AN AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATE OF ABOUT 0.5PERCENT. BIRTH AND MORTALITY DATE SUGGEST, ACCORDING TO GOU CENSUS OFFICIALS, AN ESTIMATED NATURAL RATE OF INCREASE OF 1.2PERCENT, WITH THE LOOWER ACTUAL RATE OF GROWTH EVIDENTLLY RESULTING FROM NET EMIGRATION, ALTHOUGH GOU ANNOUNCEMENT WAS SILENT ON THIS POINT.

2. OFFICIAL PROJECTIONS BASED ON THE 1963 CENSUS HAD PLACED THE 1974 POPULATION AT SLIGHTLY OVER THREE MILLION. THIS ESTIMATE WAS USED BY THE IMF IN CALCULATING URUGUAY'S 1974 PER CAPITA GDP OF SDR 775. THE NEW CENSUS FIGURE OF 2.76 MILLION WOULD INCREASE PER CAPITA GDP BY 9.5PERCENT TO SDR 849 OR ABOUT \$1,000.

3. THE IMF CALCULATES URUGUAYAN GDP BY USING A 1961 OR 69 BASE YEAR ANDDD ADDING THE REAL GDP CHANGE IN EACH SUCCEEDING YEAR, AS WELL AS ACCOUNTING FOR DEVALUATION OF THE U.S. DOLLAR.

4. THE APPARENT REASON FOR THE SMALL POPULATION INCREASE IS THE WIDESPREAD EMIGRATION OF YOUNG URUGUAYAN MALES, PRINCIPALLY TO  
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ARGENTINA WHERE THERE HAVE BEEN BETTER ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIIES

IN THE PAST. STATISTICS ON EMIGRATION ARE LACKINGN BUT THE 1975  
CENSUS LENDS EVIDENCE TO THIIIS THEORY SINCE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN  
THE MALE AND FEMALE POPULATIONS INCREASED BY 250PERCENT, WITH  
52,000 MORE FEMALES THAN MALES IN THE POPULATION.  
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